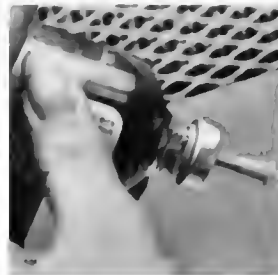


VCU MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2011

Will the answer to our future energy
problems rise and set with the sun?





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James L. Dunn, Director of Alumni Activities

K. L. Cortright, Jr., Assistant to the Director

Mary Margaret C. Fosmark, Alumni Records Officer

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*Ninety percent of our energy resources are in the form of coal.
But coal is by no means environmentally safe.*

The Energy Answer: Mostly Questions

Perhaps you're tired of hearing about the soon-to-be \$1 per gallon of gasoline. Perhaps, by now, you're even more weary of having to pay almost that much to keep your car running.

But like it or not, it takes oil to keep America's automobiles going, its air conditioners humming, its furnaces burning, and its factories producing. One day, though, there is not going to be enough oil to go around. And then what?

Nuclear power? Solar power? Greater utilization of coal? Thousands of mice on a gigantic treadmill? There has to be something to replace our dependence on the black gold, the once Texas, and now Arab, tea. But just what might do that is a topic open for considerable debate.

Dr. Billy W. Sloope, professor and chairman of the physics department, knows quite a bit about the energy situation. But he isn't at all sure what the solution is. In fact, like just about everyone else who studies this problem, he seems to think there are more questions than answers.

VCU Magazine. Where are we now in terms of energy resources and alternatives?

Sloope. That question may sum up the whole energy problem. Where are we? The overall picture dictates looking for other energy sources, and while we've been doing that somewhat, we haven't been very serious about it. Depending on the estimate you choose to believe, we'll be out of oil in another 40-50 years. We know where all the big pools are located, so now we're looking for smaller pools. I would guess that Alaska and Mexico are probably going to be the last big finds. And while Alaska's oil supply may be large, if we used that as our only supply of oil, it would last about

10 years. There is a possibility that there may be oil in China, but I would be very surprised if we would get any real help from that. China is such a vast country that if they are going to increase their industrial output, they are going to need all the oil they can get. If we got any help from them at all, I would think it would only be initially and it would be more of a political tool than anything else.

Continuing our current growth rate in the use of oil in this country, even if there is twice as much oil as we think there is, that would only add five-to-10-years to our supply.

Q. Well, what are we going to do when our domestic and foreign supplies of oil are depleted in, at the most, 40-50 years?

A. There are a variety of alternatives. One of the most discussed currently is a fission-based nuclear power. Fission, however, calls for the use of uranium and from it, radioactive waste. Fusion-based nuclear power, however, is derived from hydrogen and is a very clean process. Unfortunately, no one has come very close to perfecting a fusion model that will work on a large scale. Only recently has there been a fusion lab model that worked on a small scale. The problem has been that it has taken more energy to complete the process than is generated when the process is completed.

Q. Do you see fission as a viable alternative?

A. We want 100 percent safety assurances on nuclear plants, when we don't require that of anything else. But the largest problem with fission so far has been the storage of waste. Radioactive waste creates a long-term problem and we don't have

evidence to support the safety of storing it in someplace like salt mines. Theoretically, we could take all this waste, treat it so it has a shorter half-life, and cut down on the risk. But it takes a tremendous amount of energy just to do this.

Q. What about coal? Isn't that supposed to be our "ace in the hole?"

A. Ninety percent of this country's energy resources are in the form of coal and we probably have enough to last several hundred years. But coal isn't going to be the big factor until we satisfactorily gasify or liquify it. Transportation and mining will prevent our large deposits of coal from being utilized to their fullest extent in a short period of time. If we use two times as much coal, we're going to have to dig up and move twice as much. While there is enough coal to last a good while, we sometimes confuse the resource supply with the market demand.

The size of our coal supply gives us a false sense of security. Utilization of coal depends on how much we can refine and purify and when you talk about digging, transporting, refining, and purifying coal in an environmentally acceptable manner, you're talking about raising the cost of the mineral.

Q. What type of purification process is necessary for coal to meet environmental standards?

A. You have to get the sulfur out of coal in order for it to meet environmental standards. Coal mined in the eastern part of the United States can contain as much as 5 to 7 percent sulfur. To burn 10,000 tons of this coal would release 500 tons of sulfur into the air. This pollution puts more acid in lakes and ponds and affects



plants, buildings, animals, and man.

Coal is not immune to radioactivity, either. Coal contains radioactive impurities and they are not destroyed when coal is burned. So, as piles of coal ash build up, the radioactivity given off from them increases.

Q. So, there's not going to be any oil after a point; if we use nuclear power, we run the risk of an industrial accident or serious side-effects from the storage of radioactive waste; and coal, our most abundant resource, as well as a traditional energy source, pollutes and can be radioactive. What's left?

A. Some say solar energy could be a key to the future. Solar energy hasn't been used sufficiently because oil and coal have been cheaper. Solar power is not the most convenient form of energy, its initial costs are higher than others and there is a storage problem. The theory behind the utilization of solar power is there, but the technology hasn't been sufficiently developed.

Solar power does have at least one advantage over nuclear power. You can build a small or large solar plant. But you need a large plant for nuclear power. Some sources are just not feasible on a small scale.

One problem with solar power, though, is the placement of solar panels. They need to be put where the most sun is available. Richmond has enough sun on the average, but we don't use energy on the average, we use it 24 hours a day. We also have the sun

shining 24 hours a day, but everywhere on the globe doesn't get 24 hours of sunlight. That's why fossil fuels are so advantageous, they're easily stored.

I also see a problem with solar panels. I'm willing to bet that if there are 50 companies selling the panels in Virginia, most of the panels haven't been tested to see if they really do save people money on energy. I'm afraid a lot of people may get taken because there hasn't been enough experimentation done on the panels. The cost of installing solar panels is quite high compared to other sources, but then, no source of energy is free.

Solar power doesn't just involve direct use of the sun. There are indirect uses as well, such as windmills and water wheels. These were important steps in our progress and now we may get back to some of these things on a limited basis.

There's also some possibility of a limited application of geothermal power. For example, by locating hot rocks fairly close to the earth's surface, drilling two holes, and pumping cold water in and hot water out, we could tap a large source of energy and an appreciable amount of power, but it's nowhere near what we can get from solar power. Of course, use of geothermal power is limited to readily accessible areas and there aren't that many of them.

Occasionally, people will propose use of electricity as an alternative energy source. But electricity is not a source, electricity must utilize a source in order to produce power.

Q. Where do you think our energy supplies of the future will come from?

A. I think the best and obvious source of energy would be a combination of the uses of fusion-based nuclear power and solar power, which is, in reality, fusion. Of course, people have proposed this for years, but no one paid any attention until 1973 when the Middle East cut our oil spigkets off.

Q. A lot of people are very tired of hearing and reading about the energy problem. Perhaps justifiably so, they are skeptical of "shortages", are suspicious of the oil industry, and feel that as soon as the price of gasoline and other oil products reach their maximum, there will be more fuel than we know what to do with. Is there any truth to this?

A. We have plenty of oil and gas in wells for now and the next few years. But we could be in for big problems in the not-so-distant future.

Right now, we're in the situation where some people are doing this and other people are doing that, and no one knows what anybody else is doing. There's no concentrated effort or guiding force for solving the energy problem.

Q. Where is this guiding force going to come from?

A. I hate to have to say it, but I think this leadership is going to have to be spearheaded by the government.

The whole energy problem is a good political tool. There's something in it for everybody. Yet there is no firm foundation for anyone to make political solutions. Science laws won't tell us the best economical, social, or political way to go on this. And more than any other scientific concept, energy has important social, political, and economic implications. For the most part, we've only looked at how energy affected our physical environment. Now we are going to have to drastically change our energy uses or drastically change our standard of living.

Here Comes the Sun



By Dr. Frederick C. Haas

Since its creation our planet, earth, has been heated by its solar furnace, the sun. Even with the losses due to the 93 million mile distance we are from it, the screening influence of the atmosphere, and the night hours during which there is no sunlight, there are countless millions of BTUs of energy striking the earth's total surface area each day.

Man has used this energy throughout history, sometimes accidentally and always inefficiently. The accidents haven't always been happy occasions as, for example, sunlight focused by a mirror or a piece of broken bottle causing a fire. The inefficiency has occurred partially because the presence of solar energy byproducts such as the fossil fuels, coal and oil, have distracted man from fully using the primary energy source, the sun. Greenhouses are passive collectors of solar energy, as are building windows, sometimes to the disadvantage of the occupants. But until relatively recent times, well organized efforts to use solar energy efficiently have been rare.

A combination of factors is now refocusing our attention upon the sun as an energy source. Fossil fuels are being depleted. The oil supply is controlled by a producers' cartel, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. The coal supply, while less concentrated, is also limited and not all of it is suitable for burning when another factor, environmental impact, is considered. Wind energy has not been extensively developed. Hydro-power is limited to certain regions having suitable topog-

raphy and water flow and is very costly and environmentally disruptive to develop. Nuclear power has had as many opponents as proponents and now after the Three Mile Island reactor accident opposition will stiffen. All of these things are refocusing our attention upon the sun which is inexhaustible for the foreseeable future, clean and non-polluting, and free. Perhaps freely available would be a better expression since practical devices to use it are not free.

There is sunlight everywhere on the surface of the planet at various times. Certain places average more sunlight than others because of prevailing weather patterns, lack of blocking by mountains and other barriers, and the latitude at which the areas are located. The equator receives many times the solar energy the poles do. There is considerable variance between locations such that Richmond averages about 61 percent of the mean percentage of possible sunshine while Las Vegas, Nevada averages about 82 percent. The average range experienced in Richmond is from 49 percent in January to 66 percent in June. To accomplish a given amount of water or space heating an installation in Las Vegas need not be as large as one in Richmond. Put another way, the same installation if made in Las Vegas would yield more total useful energy. The conditions prevailing in Virginia do make solar energy feasible as a supplement to either water or space (home) heating. Use of solar collectors as the only heat source is, however, marginal here while it is far more practical in Nevada, Arizona, California (some areas), Florida, and some other "sun belt" locations. Total energy supply by solar collection, even in those places, does require design of the building for the solar heat source. It should be designed, located, and constructed to receive and retain as much solar energy as possible.

Among the factors to be considered are the placement of the building such that other buildings,



Someday, the pumps will probably be dry.

hills, or other barriers will not shield it from the sun. Removal of such obstacles as trees from the site also is necessary. Orientation of the building is necessary to provide a south facing roof having the required pitch. An alternative is having a roof area where properly angled collectors can be mounted. Also of great importance is the use of construction materials and techniques to ensure the maximum of heat retaining capability in the building.

Based upon the conditions existing here and the present stage of development of the equipment, three kinds of solar energy installations are presently practical for small businesses and private homes. In order of decreasing practicality they are:

- solar assisted domestic water heating
- solar assisted heat pump for space heating
- solar space heating with an auxiliary heat source.

The most promising use of solar energy for Virginia residents right now probably is water heating. This installation is practical not only for new homes designed for it but as a retrofit for older homes that fulfill the required

conditions. Any home or building which has a south facing or nearly south facing roof of the required slope angle or on which the required angle for collector mounting can be achieved, and whose roof can support the weight of the collectors, is a potential site for solar hot water heating.

There are numerous ways to install the system which must be tailored to the existing conditions. The most popular method leaves the existing domestic hot water heater and its heat source in place and provides for pre-heating of the feed water coming from the well or main before it enters the existing heater. The advantage of this method is that when sufficient sunlight is available the solar "boost" of the feed water can carry it from the usual 55 degree—65 degree Fahrenheit temperature to as much as 120 degrees—140 degrees *before* it enters the existing heater. Some users may find this sufficient and set the thermostat on the original heater to this temperature or slightly higher. In this case little or no fuel will be used. When the sunlight isn't sufficient and there isn't enough heat stored in the pre-heat tank for this extent of preheating some preheating may occur and the existing unit will



Nuclear reactors have been a constant source of controversy and the recent Harrisburg, Pa., mishap has done nothing to change that.

use less fuel. At the extreme, if no solar boost occurs the existing heater will simply function as it previously did and heat the water from the feed temperature to the required temperature. It has been estimated by various designers that an efficient system can supply about 65 to 75 percent of the required water heating energy leaving the existing unit to generate only the remaining 25 to 35 percent.

With solar assisted heat pump for space heating air or fluid, possibly water with antifreeze, is heated in solar collectors and then transfers its heat to the input coil of a heat pump. Many Virginians are installing heat pumps or buying homes with heat pumps as their primary heating units. While these units are efficient under a wide range of operating conditions their function becomes marginal when the outside air temperature falls below 25 degrees—30 degrees Fahrenheit. This is due to the way a heat pump functions—there is no heat source in the unit. All it does is pump heat either into or out of the house. The heat to be pumped in comes from the ground, a submerged body of water, such as a well, or from the outside air. Many of the installations are of the latter kind. For

house heating the refrigerant in the unit is permitted to expand while passing through a coil located outside of the building while outside air is being blown around the coil by a fan. The refrigerant absorbs heat from the air. This heated refrigerant is then pumped to another coil inside the house causing this coil to heat up. The air in the house is blown around this coil by another fan where it picks up the heat and carries it into the rooms. For house cooling the cycle is reversed.

What the solar assistance does is substitute an up to 140 degrees Fahrenheit fluid or gas as a heat source instead of the outside air, which might be as cold as zero or even below. The heat pump efficiency is greatly increased. If no solar "boost" is available, such as at night, the heat pump continues to operate in its conventional mode, including using some electric resistance boost, if necessary.

Because building design and orientation on the site are critical factors solar space heating with an auxiliary heat source is most suitable for the new home being built somewhere in the sun belt, which is designed specifically for solar heating. The size of the solar collector installation, the requirement for heat storage, and the

need for a fairly capable stand-by heating source make it an expensive installation for some areas at this time. Under ideal circumstances, such an installation can provide enough years of relatively inexpensive operation to pay back its cost, especially if the stand-by heating system requirements are minimal. The stand-by system could be some electric resistance heating or one or more high efficiency stoves or fireplaces, for example. As fuel costs rise there will be additional engineering done on this type of system to improve its efficiency and lower its cost to make it more cost effective. But at present few installations have been made.

How Much Does Heating Water Cost?

As an example let's figure the cost to heat 2500 gallons of water coming from the well or the main at 55 degrees Fahrenheit up to 165 degrees Fahrenheit. This could be the monthly requirement for a dairy farmer, a small restaurant owner, or a family of five persons for showers, dishwashing, and clothes washing.

The heat needed can be calculated in British Thermal Units (BTUs) using the following formula:

$$Q = G \times K \times T$$

where: Q = BTUs needed

G = gallons to be heated

K = weight of one gallon of water (8.33 lbs.)

T = Temperature difference between the feed water and the heated water

so:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BTUs} &= 2500 \times 8.33 \times 110^\circ \\ &= 2,290,750 \end{aligned}$$

There are about 3,414 BTUs available in one kilowatt hour of electricity which presently costs about .055¢ at summer rates and .05¢ at winter rates. Therefore:

$$\text{Cost} = \frac{2,290,750}{3,414} \times 0.05$$

$$\text{Cost} = \$33.55 \text{ (at winter rates)}$$

Gas and oil currently cost less than electricity for water heating per BTU available, however, the actual cost is greatly influenced by the condition and efficiency of the burner being used.

The savings from solar water heating assistance depend on a number of variables, including how much water you use, at what temperature, and how you heat it. Presently the most efficient systems available are estimated to have a potential for providing a yearly average of 65 percent to 75 percent of the energy needed for water heating in this area. In the above example this would be a saving of about \$25.16 per month on the average.

How long it takes for the installation to pay for itself also has many variables, so it must be calculated for each installation. You must consider how large a system you need and what type it will be and price out the components. Then you add the installation cost including any required structural changes to the building upon which you will install it. In some cases part of the work can be done by the farmer, or businessman, or home owner. Other elements such as fabrication and installation of the solar panels probably are best done profes-

sionally since their function is so critical to the efficient system operation.

The payback calculation is:

$$\frac{\text{Total Cost}}{\text{Monthly Savings}} = \text{payback period in months}$$

Total cost should also include any financing charges. Monthly savings should be recalculated whenever cost of energy or energy usage changes substantially. The decision whether or not to install some type of solar heating assistance to the hot water system may include other factors besides payback period.

One positive factor is that after the installation has paid for itself in energy savings these savings will continue during its remaining useful lifetime. They will be offset to some extent by any maintenance costs to keep the equipment operating.

This is one case where the fuel source, the sun, is inexhaustable, is free, and is not subject to withdrawal from the market or manipulation by some person or group to the disadvantage of the customer.

Now that we have outlined how an individual may be able to save himself some money currently being spent for energy we have to recognize that these may be only short run savings.

The electric utilities are, by their charters, required to serve all customers. They are required to be able to supply all their customers' entire or peak power demands. This means they must have sufficient generating equipment in place or have agreements with other utilities for stand-by power sufficient to carry the

highest possible customer load.

They are permitted by law to earn a fixed return on the costs involved in providing this service, including the necessary reserves.

When a customer installs a supplementary device to supply part of his energy needs, whatever it might be including a solar energy installation, the utility still must stand ready to assume the full load should the supplementary system fail. As long as the customer retains a connection to the utility by being attached to its lines this condition prevails. If a sufficient number of customers do install such substitute energy devices the utility will have to reflect it in the rate base and charge for service a customer *might* need as well as for service he is using. When and if this occurs the savings from using solar energy will have to be recalculated taking this factor into account.

The gas utility is in exactly the same circumstances. Supplies of coal and bottled gas are in somewhat different circumstances but they too must cover all their expenses. When a customer greatly reduces his consumption but still requires a tank of bottled gas as a stand-by the price will have to reflect the cost of providing the service while experiencing a greatly reduced volume of sales.

Does this mean that there really is no incentive for developing energy alternatives? Or does it mean that as we do we must also rethink some of our existing arrangements and circumstances under which energy is now supplied? ☼

Dr. Haas is an associate professor of management in the School of Business.



Getting Under a Diabetic's Skin

Tiny capsules containing the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas may replace the daily injections of insulin taken by diabetics, according to scientists at MCV. If development of a treatment for diabetes is successful, the capsules may remedy diabetes for many sufferers of the disease.

The capsules, which are about one-fiftieth of an inch in diameter, would not be swallowed, but would be injected yearly, or perhaps once in a lifetime. The complicating illnesses commonly associated with conventional insulin therapy, such as heart disease, blindness, nerve disorders, and kidney damage, would be reduced or eliminated by the capsules.

The potential of developing a new diabetes treatment was disclosed by Dr. Franklin Lim, associate professor of clinical pathology at MCV, when he announced the successful encapsula-

tion of the living clumps of cells that produce insulin as a part of the pancreas. Co-author of the report is Dr. Richard Moss, a research associate in Lim's laboratories at MCV.

The report heralded the first successful effort at containing living tissue in such a way that it could continue to live and grow. The encapsulation technique was developed at MCV during the last several months.

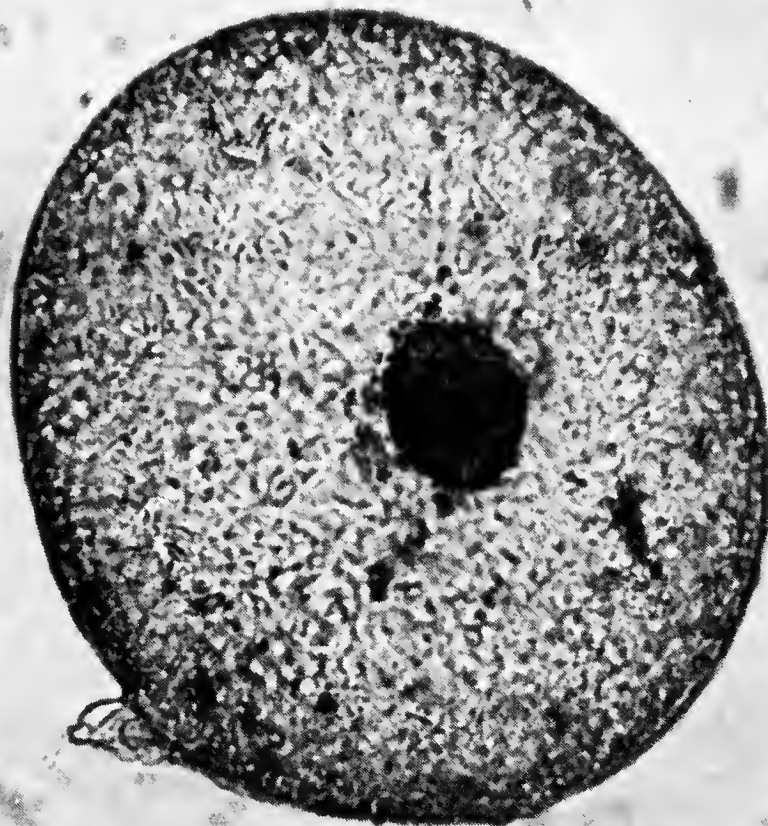
The capsules are formed by a membrane that allows molecules no larger than a certain size to pass in and out. The membrane is made of naturally occurring substances called polysaccharides, some types of which are used in the making of foodstuffs, including ice cream and preserves.

Because the membrane allows substances to pass through it, the cells inside can receive nutrients and can release insulin to the outside.

Large molecules, such as those associated with the body's natural defense mechanisms, cannot pass through the membrane. Therein lies the potential of the microencapsulation technique, for it will protect transplanted insulin-producing clusters of cells, called islets, from rejection.

Scientists have shown that diabetic rats can be temporarily cured of diabetes by the injection of pancreatic islet cells from another rat. But the diabetic rat soon rejects the transplanted cells, because they are not protected.

MCV scientists surmise that the islets will be protected by the new micro-encapsulated technique. Preliminary studies in rats show that transplanted, encapsulated islets continue to live and are not rejected by the recipient rat. Large scale studies in rats have begun at Connaught Laboratories of Toronto, Canada, under the direction of Dr. Anthony Sun.



This small capsule, resting within a cell, may solve some problems for diabetics.

Earlier in this century, Connaught pioneered in research which led to the first full-scale production of insulin.

The research at MCV, and the continuing research at Connaught, are funded by the Damon Corporation of Needham Heights, Mass. The firm operates the nation's largest network of diagnostic laboratories and manufactures diagnostic instruments and products.

"In view of these findings, we hope that microencapsulated islets may be a better and simpler alternative for diabetic treatment, providing an injectable, physiologically disposable pancreas which will stabilize fluctuations in blood sugar by natural control", says Lim.

The MCV scientists say that development of a new diabetes treatment based on the microencapsulation principle may be several years away. Among numerous questions that are left to be answered are:

Will the encapsulated islets function in laboratory animals and in humans as they do in test tubes? Will the islets survive for a lengthy time in the capsules? Will the bodies of laboratory animals and humans tolerate the tiny capsules on a long-term basis?

Thus far, the MCV scientists have observed that encapsulated islets from rats can survive for as long as eight weeks while continuing to function normally in test tubes. Placed in solutions of glucose, the encapsulated islets have produced insulin at a rate which rises as the concentration of glucose rises. Control islets which were not encapsulated died in 24 days.

While microencapsulation of non-living substances has been used in industry for longer than 25 years, it has been applied to biological material only recently. Lim's work at MCV over the last decade has included the successful encapsulation of antibodies, enzymes, and now, living cells.

In addition to encapsulating pancreatic islets, the scientists also successfully used the new technique to encapsulate liver cells, red blood cells, sperm cells, and pancreatic endocrine tissue.

For years, research in diabetes therapy has concentrated on developing alternatives to insulin injection, such as an artificial pancreas. The ideal treatment would enable a diabetic to produce insulin naturally. The injection of encapsulated pancreatic tissue may permit that.

The objection to insulin therapy centers on the wide fluctuations in glucose level that occur without relationship to current need. In a non-diabetic person, insulin is produced as needed to keep glucose at a relatively stable level. The complications of widely fluctuating insulin levels over long periods include heart disease, blindness, nerve damage, kidney damage, other disorders, and shortened life expectancy. ☞

¿ Hablan Ustedes Español, Señores ?



Spanish art, culture, and newspapers are beginning to show up everywhere.

If Benjamin Franklin had had his way, we'd all be speaking Greek today. Franklin wanted the new United States to break completely from its ties with England, including its spoken and written language. But that idea was passed over by the other founding fathers, and most of us might agree that it was a wise decision on their parts.

English, although it may sometimes become so garbled and convoluted that it may as well be Greek, is the language that just about everyone in the United States speaks. But there is a large

and growing number of people living in this country whose native tongue is not English. Most of these people are Spanish and their influence is beginning to be felt across the United States.

There are estimates that project by the year 2000, just 21 short years away, America will be a bilingual nation and its second language will be Spanish. That doesn't mean everyone will be required to speak and understand Spanish in order to get by in life. It does mean that there will someday be Spanish speaking television and radio stations, road

signs will appear in English and Spanish, instructions on machinery and appliances and labels on cans will be presented in two languages, and advertisements will be presented in dual tongues.

And just like the ad on television says, someday is now, at least in some places. Should you happen to visit Miami, New York City, San Antonio, Texas, or Los Angeles, you would find yourself experiencing the Spanish culture. Miami and New York are almost completely bilingual cities, while Los Angeles and San Antonio are very close.

Richmond, other parts of the South, and the rest of the nation are not likely to be affected in the same way as these four cities. But the Spanish population is growing, it is moving throughout the country, and is no longer confined to just major urban centers. It is doubtful that every section will feel the effects in the same way as New York, but it is equally doubtful that any city or state will not be touched by the Spanish influx.

And that is in no way bad or dangerous. In fact, it should be just the opposite.

"If anyone is alarmed, they shouldn't be," says Dr. John Birmingham, associate professor of Spanish in the foreign languages department. "This won't endanger anyone in any way. We have a lot to learn about other peoples' cultures, and this is the best way to do it. This country has always been willing to accept refugees and it's always a good sign to be aware of the problems of other people."

"No one needs to be concerned about Spanish supplanting English as this country's official language. We have a very strong and long English tradition, we spoke English as a common language even before we were a nation, and Spanish is never going to replace that. In fact, that's not what the Spanish want, they aren't even interested in that. They simply want equality from the humanistic point of view. They don't want to take over, there's no reason why they should."

It may seem like this Spanish influx has happened all at once. One day, we're as American as apple pie and the next we're becoming acquainted with the economic problems of Spain. But this hasn't entirely been the case.

The Spanish influx had its biggest migration beginning in 1959 when Fidel Castro took over in Cuba and thousands of Cubans fled to Miami. There has also been, for a number of years, a Puerto Rican migration to New York City, with better jobs and living conditions serving as the

impetus. There has been, and continues to be, a continual Mexican migration north to the United States. These can be broken down to two distinct groups: those who have been coming here for 200 years, for such things as studying at American universities and medical schools, and those streaming across the border in search of better jobs and lives. There are also people coming from other parts of the Spanish speaking world.

Initially, these people tended to be very clanish, sticking to themselves and their own people, but that has begun to change.

"The Spanish-speaking people are beginning to make their influence felt in this country," Birmingham says. "When they first came here, they set up and stayed in their own neighborhoods. But they recognized that these areas had the potential to turn into ghettos. These people have a lot of pride, and you'll never find a Spanish-speaking ghetto in the same sense of what the word has come to mean today. So some of these people have left the cities and moved out into other areas."

"Now, they are just beginning to make their presence felt and we're becoming much more aware of them than we used to be. Spanish-speaking people are participating in and making contributions to many facets of our country, including government, sports, and the arts."

"America is beginning to be aware that we live in a world where other languages are spoken and to get along, we need to be aware, at least at a rudimentary level, of other cultures."

This, according to Birmingham, hasn't always been the case.

"For many years, the study of a foreign language was considered to be very elitist," he says. "The common man didn't have the time or the inclination to learn another language. But now, it's not just the elite who are learning foreign languages, practically everybody is. From the Spanish-speaking influx, we are already seeing a rise

in foreign language students. Of course, this isn't due just to the Spanish influence, Spanish and French traditionally take turns spelling each other as the most popular foreign language to study. But this increase is due more to the influx than to the usual normal cycle."

"Through the study of another language and through the influence of the Spanish-speaking people in this country we might do something to change the ethnocentric idea about the English language that we seem to harbour. This will help us get away from the idea of America as a 'melting pot' of cultures. Its good for people to have their own culture, to keep their language, proverbs, and folklore. There's no danger in this, they're still Americans and this is a very definite plus for the country."

Everyone, of course, is not going to learn to speak Spanish. Those of us who are through with our formal education might find it difficult to go back and pick up Spanish, even if our hearts were in the proper places. Learning a foreign language after you have been speaking your native tongue for 20 or 30 or 40-plus years is not an easy proposition. The best way to pick up a language is to begin studying it when you are very young, before the confusion and domination of the English language sets in. This is why Birmingham thinks we will see a rise in the teaching of Spanish at the elementary-school level.

"Children who start studying a language when they are young can be absolutely amazing," he says. "They become completely bilingual, they speak Spanish perfectly and switch over to English without the slightest problem. When children are started young, they become so thoroughly immersed in a language that they are as adaptable as they can be."

For those of us who don't speak Spanish and might have an occasional need for a translation from Spanish into English, the foreign language department at VCU can offer help in that area.

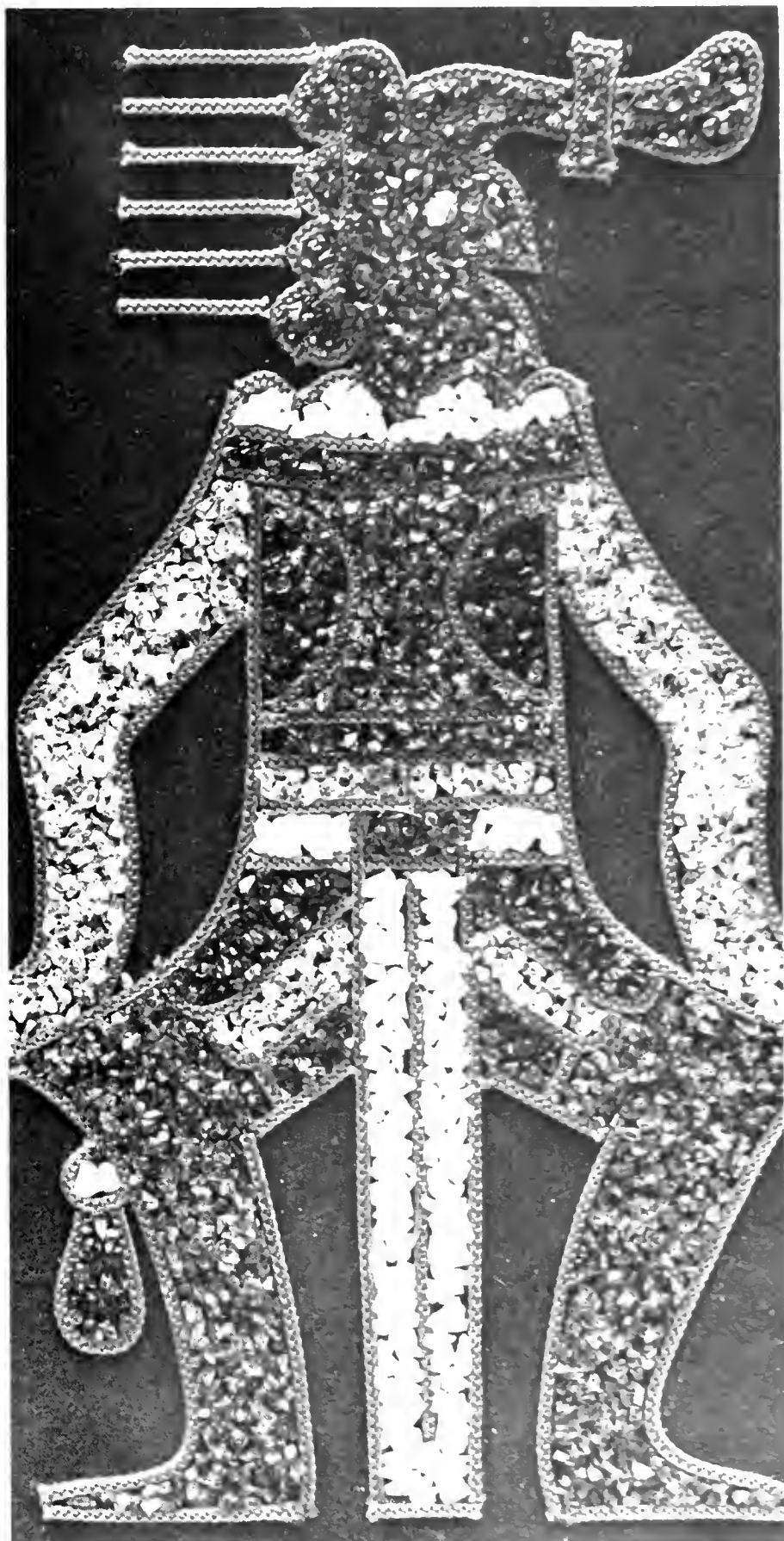
Under the direction of Dr. William J. Beck, chairman of the department, there is a Foreign Language Bank. This "bank" contains a number of people in the Richmond area who are fluent in one or several languages. Beck can put people in touch with those who need articles, instructions, letters, and other information translated from the most common languages, such as Spanish, Italian, French, and German, to some of the most exotic, such as Tagalog (Philippino), Ibo (African), and Croatian (Yugoslavian).

For Richmond, Birmingham doesn't see anything near the type of Spanish influx that has been witnessed in New York or Miami, but he does feel the Spanish influence will be felt.

"There are already thousands of Spanish people in Richmond. There are Catholic masses and Protestant services that are presented in Spanish, and in fact, the Richmond Diocese has about 20,000 Spanish-speaking people. There has been formed a Committee of Spanish Speaking Communities of Richmond in order to try to make the problems of these people known to the public. And there are already a number of Spanish oriented activities taking place in the area."

There are a variety of benefits that can be reaped from this move toward a bilingual population. There are, of course, the many cultural gains that everyone can make, as well as economic advantages. It might serve us in good stead to make an effort to understand Spanish and the Spanish culture, especially with Mexico, our closest Spanish-speaking neighbor, sitting on what appears to be a sizeable amount of oil. For as we have painfully learned, oil is what makes this country run.

"It will be a benefit for us to be aware of our neighbors to the south," Birmingham says. "It will be to our advantage to realize that we share the same hemisphere with millions of Spanish-speaking people." ❁



Lafayette, We Know You've Been Here

by Robert Sims

It is difficult to assess the influence of French culture on the United States for several reasons. First, the word "culture" is hard to define. Instead of confining it to specific fields such as art, music, or literature, I would like to broaden it to include the contributions of the French to the United States in a wide variety of fields. This will give a better perspective of French culture's overall influence. Another factor we must consider is the difference in the age of the two cultures. When the Romans conquered the Gauls in 52 B.C., the latter inherited a culture already 1000 years old. The Romanization of France proved to be a decisive factor in the development of a unified nation and culture. The United States is a combination of many cultures. The melting pot idea which has absorbed so many different cultural strains into the American way of life makes it difficult to examine a particular cultural influence. It is somewhat easier to trace the role of Roman culture in France than to measure the impact of French culture on the United States. All these factors signify that I can only give a partial picture of its role in America's evolution as nation.

To begin, I would like to cite some dates from different centuries which attest to the constant presence of French culture.

In 1670, La Salle reached the Ohio River descending as far as modern-day Louisville, Ky. In 1673, Joliet and Marquette explored the Mississippi River. In 1685, when France revoked the Edict of Nantes which had guaranteed the Huguenots' rights, many fled to the United States. In 1718, New Orleans, named for Philip of Orleans, was founded. In 1738, Pierre de la Vérendrye explored western Minnesota, the Dakotas, and

Manitoba. He also set up a series of fur trading posts which western Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Manitoba. He also set up a series of fur trading posts which extended to the Rockies. In 1755, the British government forced 6,000 Acadians to leave Nova Scotia. Many eventually settled in southern Louisiana along the Gulf Coast and became known as "Cajuns," a corruption of "Acadians." In 1781, Lafayette and Rochambeau helped Washington to defeat the British at Yorktown. In 1790, Thomas Jefferson planned the Virginia state capitol along the lines of the Maison carrée at Nîmes, France. From 1800 to 1820, French manners and culture were much in vogue owing to the widespread acceptance of the principles of the French Revolution. French fashions also enjoyed great popularity, and Presidents Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Jackson ordered many items from France for the White House. In 1859, Charles Blondin, a French tightrope performer, walked across Niagara Falls on a 1,100 foot cable, 160 feet above the precipice. In 1913, French cubism was introduced to America at an exhibition in New York. In the 20s, Paris was the literary center for many American writers like Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and Gertrude Stein. In 1957, Jacques Cousteau, marine explorer, began his famous series of underwater explorations aboard the Calypso.

As these few examples demonstrate, the influence of French culture has contributed to the development of the United States. Our democratic traditions of freedom, equality, and justice stem in part from the ideas expressed by the 18th century philosophers like Voltaire and Rousseau. Our form of government owes much to the writings of Montesquieu and de Tocqueville. Our language contains many words which show France's

influence: automobile, garage, chef, cuisine, hors d'oeuvres, chic, restaurant, hotel, lingerie, boutique, etc. French culture has had a striking impact on fashion, culinary arts, and the perfume and wine industries. What characterizes all these areas is the search for perfection, for the *chef d'oeuvre* which will produce the best possible work. California wines, which now rival French wines in quality, owe their origins to French settlers who brought with them their vines and the tradition of wine-making.

The French also brought to America a spirit of adventure combined with a deep reverence for the past. They participated in the pioneering spirit that dominated America. Men like Champ-lain, La Salle, Marquette, La Vérendrye participated in the development of the United States. These same men also attempted to establish permanent settlements in order to preserve what they had done. The French sense of tradition, reverence for the past, and the feeling of belonging to an ancient civilization was combined with the spirit of adventure and exploration. The French not only staked out their economic and territorial claims in the United States, but they also implanted their culture as they progressed. It is in part due to this tradition that French culture has been able to endure in the United States where change constantly assails tradition. The effect of tradition can also be seen in two other places where French culture has been adapted to different settings: the Cajuns of Louisiana and Quebec.

In southern Louisiana, the Cajuns have evolved a culture which dates from the arrival of the French settlers. Louisiana has now revived the study of French in order to help to preserve its French heritage. This has led to problems because the Cajuns say



Thomas Jefferson's design of the Virginia state capitol was influenced by French architecture.

that teaching of the French language and culture does not reflect their indigenous culture. In Quebec, the problem also stems in part from a clash between the past and the need to modernize. For a long time Quebec was known as Canada's quaint province because of its emphasis on traditionalism. Then in the 60s, the "Quiet Revolution" began and it brought rapid change to Quebec. The province underwent a dizzying process of modernization which led to a complete re-evaluation of Quebec's traditional social, political, economic, and cultural values. American economic investment in Quebec played an important part in this situation. At the same time the pressures of modernization were transforming the province,

Quebec was also engaging in a pilgrimage back to its roots. Political questions put aside, Quebec is now trying to blend traditional values and modernization in order to redefine itself.

The United States can learn an important lesson from these two situations. Since our country is a combination of so many cultures, we can take advantage of this by transmitting them through our teaching of these different languages and cultures. The Cajuns of Louisiana, Quebec, and the large Hispanic population in our country speak different languages and have different cultural values. Our response to them or to any foreign country must include an understanding of their language and culture. French culture can

aid us in this important task by opening the door to France and to other countries like Canada. Some critics of America might say that we are a country without traditions, without a past, that we place too much emphasis on transitory values and change. This may be true to some extent, but we have also inherited many different cultural influences which can co-exist in our country. The strength of the French tradition in the United States provides strong support for this idea. It is an on-going tradition which has proved adaptable, but it retains its distinctive features. ☼

Dr. Sims is an assistant professor of French in the Department of Foreign Languages.

A Festival of Firsts



What discount store would be complete without the friendly tire and auto parts salesman?



A lone shopper treads silently and resolutely down an empty aisle.

Are the arts and business compatible? If the success of City I, the first annual festival of contemporary art in central Virginia, is any barometer, the arts and business are more compatible than many imagined.

City I, funded by corporate gifts and a grant from the Virginia Commission of the Arts and Humanities, featured a variety of art forms within a week in March.

Appearing in the festival were: Ron Carter, a bass player who was formerly a member of the Miles Davis Quintet; film score composer Michael Small, who has written music for such movies as *Khute*, *Marathon Man*, *Comes a Horseman*, and *Pumping Iron*; Nexus, a group of classically trained percussionists; and the Multigravitational Aerodance Group, which performed from tightropes, trapezes, and webs suspended in space.

Perhaps the most visible aspect of the festival was the display of billboard art that was on exhibit throughout the city for one month. There were 21 original billboards, designed by VCU painters, sculptors, and printmakers, depicting a variety of interpretations as to what the artists thought billboard art should be.

Also included as a part of the festival was the color photography



Nothing satisfies a hungry shopper like the fare offered by the lady with the doughnuts and popcorn.

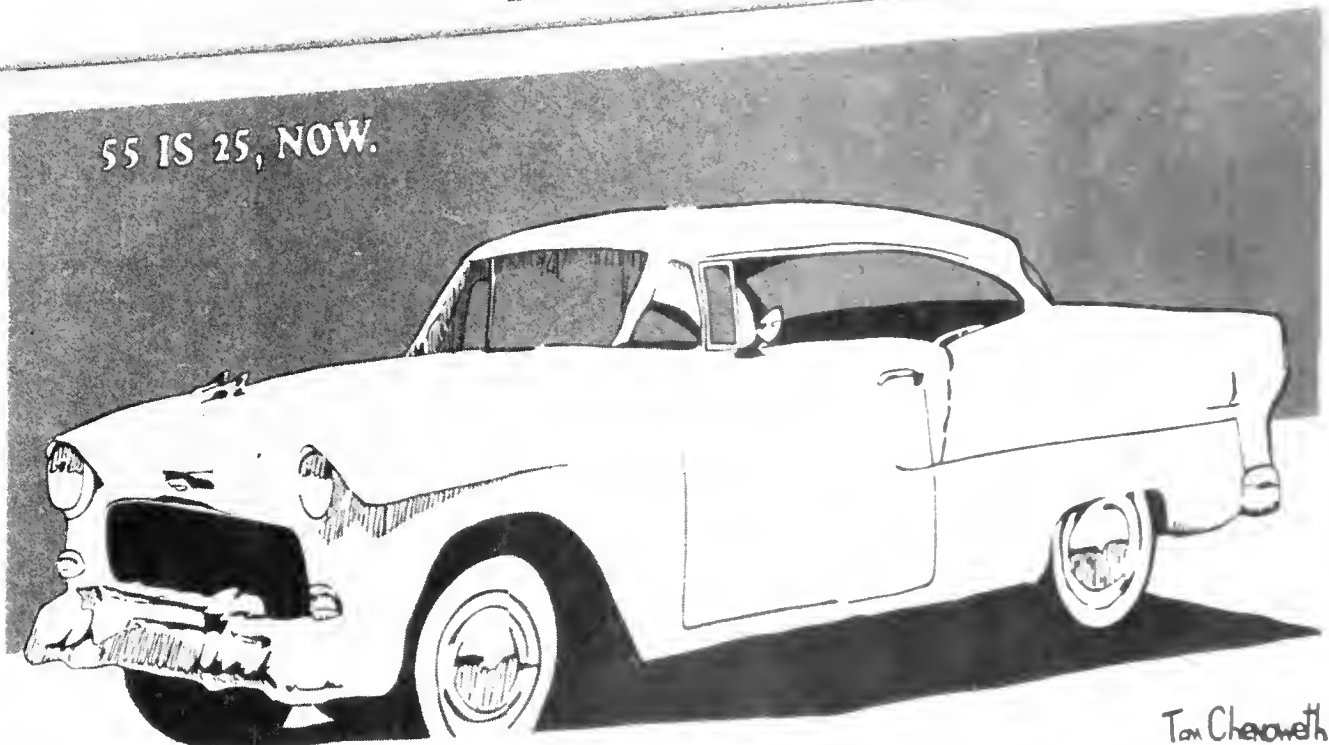


It's always nice to run into some friends while out on a shopping spree.



Hardly anyone leaves a discount store empty-handed or unhappy.

creative



Tom Chroweth apparently has a special place in his heart (and on his billboard) for the 1955 Chevrolet.



Sharon Lawless' billboard person was somewhat astounded to be so close to Johnson's Burger Barr.



contest for the best captured rising and setting sun in an urban environment. Aside from receiving prize money, the winners also had their photographs displayed in the Richmond Public Library.

One of the most popular exhibits in the festival was Red Grooms' Discount Store exhibit, which was on display in the Anderson Gallery. Grooms brought to life through sculpture the essential elements of a large discount store, complete with customers, shopping carts, and

crowded counters and parking lots.

"My overall impression is that we were successful on several fronts," says City I administrator Donald Silverman. "We achieved our mission to present the arts school as a new institutional citizen of central Virginia.

"We presented the arts school as a pacesetter in various fields of contemporary art in Virginia.

"We demonstrated to businesses that art was worth some risk-taking. We're very proud of our

involvement in City I and every business participant I've talked to is also proud they got involved.

"And we also brought some of the arts institutions and organizations closer together and will work with more cooperation in the future. We built a new bridge with the Science Museum of Virginia and will also explore the possibilities of future cooperative efforts with the Virginia Museum."

Plans are already underway for the City II Festival of Contemporary Art. ❀

As We Live and Sneeze



In the midst of summer, we are in the allergy season. Men, women, and children all suffer from hay fever, asthma, hives, bee stings, or some affliction unique to each individual when the trees and flowers begin to bloom and ragweed and insects fill the air.

There are no cures for allergies yet and those affected by them must be prepared to suffer during some of the most enjoyable seasons of the year. That suffering can be minimized, though, for those allergy victims who have learned to spell relief MCV A-l-l-e-r-g-y C-l-i-n-i-c.

The MCV Allergy Clinic is located in the A.D. Williams Clinic in West Hospital. Its staff consists of two physicians from the MCV staff, six doctors from the Richmond area who volunteer their services, and three full-time technicians.

"We see about 45 patients a week," says Mrs. Nellie Garrido, an allergy technician and supervisor of the clinic, "as well as about 40 during our night clinic."

The clinic does what any routine allergy clinic would do in the way of allergy treatment. The staff administers skin tests, about 16 a month, testing the patient for 30 inhalents and 35 different food allergies. The technicians also prepare the extracts that are administered to patients in the clinic, as well as sent to patients outside the Richmond area, who will have qualified doctors, nurses, or technicians administer them.

"We only send these to a registered nurse or doctor," Garrido says. "It's required by law that whoever administers an allergy extract must have epinephrine available in case of a reaction to the extract."

Fighting an allergy is a process that can continue for an extended period of time.

"We have to build up a patient's immunology system," Garrido says, "and it can take four-to-six months to sensitize them if they are coming in once a week. This can be cut in half if the patient can come in twice a week."

"We have four dilutions, ranging from the first one that needs to be given once a week, to the strongest one that can be given once every three weeks. How quickly a person reaches the point where he or she can take the strongest dosage depends on how sensitive they are to the extract."

The clinic also goes one step beyond just treating the patients that are referred there. They also keep a daily pollen count during the spring, summer, and fall to see what is floating in the Richmond-area air. This is done by placing a specially coated slide on the roof of Sanger Hall. Armed with this information, the doctors and technicians can recognize and treat specific reactions to allergic reactions more quickly since they know what is going around.

"A number of area doctors also call in regularly to find out what is in the area so they'll be better able to treat patients, too," Garrido explains.

Treating an allergy patient is not always the easiest thing in the world to do. Immunology is a relatively new area of medicine and has only come to the front of the field in the past 10 years.

"Immunology hasn't been a mainline area that everyone learned about," says Dr. Frank Mullinax, professor of medicine in the division of immunology and connective tissue and acting director of the adult allergy clinic. "It's usually been something of a tail-end type of thing that people picked up somewhere in their medical education."

"It's one of the areas that we have a need for more specialists than we already have in the field," Mullinax says.

The difficult thing about treating an allergy patient is that allergies are not always predictable.

"You might have some patients in which the sequence is very straight forward," Mullinax explains. "For example, a 28-year-old person who has lived in Richmond for four years may have noticed that during the past two years he or she has a problem with a runny nose, eye irritation, and itching when the trees come out in the spring and again later in the year when the seasons change. This person's family history may have others with eczema or hay fever and someone who has received allergy shots. It's very likely a person like this has an allergy to inhalents."

"On the other hand, a person with no such historical background may get stung by a bee and have no reaction. Then, five years later, he or she is stung again and has a severe reaction. Allergies are unusual and unpredictable."

The main obstacle in understanding and treating (for a cure) allergies is that the fundamental problem has not been defined. No one seems certain as to what really causes allergies and allergic reactions.

"There are differing points of view," Mullinax says. "One is that there is a difference in mucous membranes in individuals and this allows the pollens to enter a person's body more easily.

"Another is that there are neuroendocrine differences in atopic (those allergic through hereditary) individuals. This results in an excessive release of histamine, the chemical that seems clearly responsible for many allergic reactions.

"Still another is that the immunologic system itself is different in some way that is yet unknown."

Treatment for allergy sufferers is prescribed in one of three manners. First, is complete avoidance, a list that would be more likely to be given those suffering from an apparent food allergy. Since it is difficult to avoid leaving a completely sterilized environment, medication can be prescribed to those who suffer from an allergic reaction to inhalents. There is also hyposensitization therapy, the injection of allergen extracts, such as is done at the MCV Allergy Clinic.

"Pills work in a variety of ways," Mullinax says, "such as antihistamines. These are chemically similar to histamines and antagonizes the effects of histamine. Nothing in medicine is better named than antihistamines.

As for allergy shots, Mullinax says that "three-fourths of people with hay fever are helped by hypotherapy."

Children are among those who sometimes need help in fighting an allergy.

"There's a good possibility that a child who typically maintains a 'C' average in school, appears to be aloof, quiet, and has recurrent colds, cough, and a runny nose





Allergy technicians spend about three hours a day making extracts to send to patients and to be used for allergy tests in the clinic.



A variety of reactions can be discovered through the allergy prick test.

has an allergy," says Dr. Gilberto E. Rodriguez, assistant professor of pediatrics. "Many parents don't seem to pay too much attention to a child who continues to get colds, but the sad fact is that a child with an undiagnosed allergy may be going through life at 60 or 70 percent efficiency."

"Approximately 10 percent of youths are allergic, yet less than half of this number are under a physician's care," Rodriguez says.

To prevent this oversight, Rodriguez suggests taking a child who continually appears sick or has frequent colds to a physician. If the child is allergic an allergy management program can be set up.

"An allergy management program is expensive," Rodriguez admits, "but it is not expensive when compared to the cost of traditional childhood medical expenses, such as a tonsillectomy."

Children of parents with allergies will not necessarily have allergies, but they do inherit a predisposition to be allergic, according to Rodriguez. He adds that the times when youths frequently are troubled with allergy symptoms are during age four-to-seven years, during puberty, or adolescence. Rodriguez also says that times of stress tend to bring out allergy symptoms in adults and children.

If you live in the Richmond area, or practically anywhere on the entire east coast, it doesn't take much stress to bring out allergy symptoms.

"Richmond is a bad place for an allergy," Mullinax says.

"The whole eastern area is a bad place," Garrido adds. "Pollen travels so far, slides have been placed in the middle of the ocean and pollen has been found."

"Approximately 10-to-20 percent of the population of Virginia is affected by allergies," Rodriguez estimates. "This makes allergies the most common, chronic, recurrent disease in the state." ☼

Did You Know...

A Born Cellist



A year before the Communists took Czechoslovakia, the country's president, Dr. Edward Benes, arranged for a young professor at the Prague Conservatory of Music to receive a splendid cello made in 1837 by the celebrated Italian artisan, Joseph Antonio Rocca. The cellist had established himself as a virtuosic soloist, beloved teacher, champion of chamber music, and member of the anti-communist Czech Underground.

A year after giving a command performance for Benes on the cello he had received, Frantisek Smetana was incarcerated in a Communist prison, where he was beaten, stripped of his dignity, and placed at labor for one-and-a-half years. He emerged from the prison to rebuild a life of music performance, composing and teaching, and eventually to find a nation where he could live in the democracy for which he had fought and suffered.

Smetana came to Virginia in 1973 to take the first cellist's chair in the Richmond Symphony, and to teach part-time at VCU. After two years as the orchestra's principal cellist, Smetana resigned the seat, though he still plays in the orchestra, to spend his full-time teaching at VCU, and concertizing with a chamber music ensemble, The Smetana Trio.

On April 8, Smetana celebrated 50 years as a concert cellist in a program of performances by him and some of his Richmond friends.

His career has taken him to the capitals of Europe, where he has played as a chamber musician and as a soloist with great orchestras. Smetana has given several performances for heads of state, traveled as a cultural ambassador to China, North Korea, and Mongolia, played for eight years as cellist in the famed Pesek Quartet and earlier in the renowned Czech Nonet, performed regularly as a soloist with orchestras conducted by Karel Ancerl, Vaclav Neumann, Vaclav Smetacek, Kurt Mazur, and others. His scores of phonograph recordings for the Czechoslovakian Supraphon label were all removed from libraries and record shops when he defected in 1964.

Ignoring his international stature as a consummate artist, Smetana teaches at VCU with skill and unpretentious dignity. "We are a happy group in the music department. Each of us respects his colleagues, and I am very happy here," he says.

Since there were no music teachers in his village of Ohnisan, Smetana received his first music lessons at age 4 from his father, who was a self-taught pianist and violinist. In March 1924, when Frantisek was ten, he traveled with his father to the nearby city of Horice to hear an orchestra for the first time. They were playing a concert in honor of the 100th birthday anniversary of Frantisek's great grand-uncle Bedrich Smetana. There, he saw a cello for the first time.

"I was fascinated by the instrument and its sound," recalls the musician. "I asked my father to identify the instrument, and he suggested that I ask some of the players, which I did at intermission."

Six months later he started to take cello lessons, and eight weeks later Smetana gave his first cello performance on a borrowed cello.

"Somehow, I was born to be a

cellist. When I try to analyze how I could play this David Popper piece after only eight weeks of lessons, I cannot understand," says the musician. "Now, I must practice the piece before I can play it, because it is not easy."

In 1924, at age 10, Frantisek became a student of K. P. Sadlo in Prague. He left his village to live in Prague for 14 years as a member of the Sadlo household. After he finished high school, he practiced eight hours daily.

When he was 14, Smetana enrolled in the Prague Conservatory of Music to learn music composition, which he studied for five years there. "You know how to perform if you have a firm understanding of composition," he advises.

In 1936 he received a scholarship from the French government to study in Paris for two years with the renowned cellist, Pierre Fournier. Smetana says he could claim to have studied with Pablo Casals, but he does not. While at the Paris Conservatory, he attended a Casals class. "But we never saw him in class, so I cannot say that I studied with him," jokes Smetana. Later, he and the great Spanish cellist became close friends and correspondents when Smetana sent him a review in which a Dutch reviewer had called him a "Czech Casals" after hearing a concert Smetana had given in Amsterdam.

Smetana returned to Prague in 1938 and entered the Prague Conservatory, where he completed a seven-year course of study in two years to earn a diploma in cello performance and chamber music.

Smetana married his wife, Dolly, in 1941, left the Sadlo household, after World War II toured with Dolly as his accompanist until 1955, then turned to a career as a soloist who played the great cello concertos with symphony orchestras. During the interim he founded several chamber music groups, made

phonograph records, received torrents of accolades from music critics, and was imprisoned.

While in prison, he exercised his musical skills after befriendng a guard who would let him practice the cello in a prison chapel during lunch-breaks. "Sometimes they would forget that I was gone, so I could stay at the church for several hours practicing," he recalls.

After his release in 1950, he was told that he could not be reinstated on the conservatory faculty because of his political history and imprisonment. Deprived of his professorship, Smetana continued to perform. He informed the Ministry of Propaganda that he would concertize, but would never play in Prague, the seat of Czechoslovakian government. In 1953, he risked grave peril in refusing to play at a concert which was organized to protest United States involvement in the Korean War. When he traveled out of the country, the government held his wife as a hostage.

He considered defecting as early as 1956, when he was sent on a tour of China as a member of a cultural exchange group. When he asked in 1960 to be allowed to teach again, and was flatly turned down, Smetana says, "I knew that I must leave the country".

By 1964 the pressure exerted on artists by the government became less difficult, so he decided to take advantage of an offer to teach cello in the Jamaica School of Music. The government allowed him and his wife to leave Czechoslovakia to take the Jamaican job.

While there, a Jamaica-based American diplomat arranged a permanent United States visa so that after two years on the island, Smetana and his wife moved to Ames, Iowa, where the cellist joined the music faculty at Iowa State University in 1966. They remained in Iowa until moving to Richmond in 1973.

With the founding of the Smetana Trio at VCU, first-class public performances of chamber music have become regularly available in Richmond. To VCU and its music department, Smetana and his colleagues, violinist Robert Murray and pianist Landon Bilyeu, have brought the highest level of national critical attention for the brilliance and cohesiveness of their performances. Their students are enthusiastic, and the statewide community of music lovers is receiving them with growing excitement.

Though Smetana has written numerous pieces, he says "I prefer to be one of the good cellists among hundreds of composers."

Chamber music such as they play is regarded as the highest collaborative form of artistic expression. The three of them become one in their performances, sublimating their individual temperaments to achieve an absolutely identifiable fourth personality which serves to project the composer they are playing.

"A good soloist must play chamber music," Smetana says. "The finest musicians find great joy in collaboration, and develop musical understanding because of it."

Such understanding made itself manifest last summer, when Smetana had a bout with some unknown malady which rendered him unconscious for three days. His wife hummed the first motive of the Dvorak Cello Concerto in his ear, and he responded by awaking, humming the cello's entry.

"For me, music is like water for fish. I need music."

William T. Van Pelt

Conference Call

After years of struggling to find teams to play, after several years of being at the mercy of a committee to decide whether or

not an invitation to post-season play would be forthcoming, and after years of struggling in the obscurity that comes from not having a conference affiliation, the VCU athletic program has solved the problem.

As of March of this year, VCU is officially the eighth member of the young, but determined, Sun Belt Conference. The affiliation will be of most benefit to the basketball team, which is assured of home-and-home games with the seven other conference members every year, plus the advantage of participating in the Sun Belt's post-season tournament, the winner of which receives an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. There is also competition among conference teams participating in baseball, golf, tennis, and soccer.

The other members of the conference are: the University of Jacksonville, Fla., the University of South Alabama in Mobile, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Georgia State University in Atlanta, the University of New Orleans, the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, and the University of South Florida in Tampa.

The Rams will play a full-schedule of conference games this coming season in basketball and will be eligible for play in the post-season tournament.

The Sun Belt Conference was chosen by VCU, and VCU by the Sun Belt, because the other conference members are very similar to VCU in their make-up. For the most part, they are state-assisted, urban universities that have quality athletic programs but are just beginning to make their names known in athletic circles across the country.

With the good news there also, it seems, must come a certain amount of bad news to temper the joy. This news is that head basketball coach Dana Kirk has left VCU in order to accept the head coaching job at Memphis State

University of the Metro 7 Conference. Kirk served as coach of the VCU basketball team for three seasons and compiled a 57-23 record.

As *VCU Magazine* went to press, no successor had been named for Kirk.

Lash to Direct Hospital

Myles P. Lash has been named executive director of the MCV Hospitals and assumed his duties in mid-May.

Since 1974, Lash, 32, has been responsible for the operational supervision of the Ohio State University Hospitals complex, a complex similar in size to MCV's.

"He is a clear, concise thinker who quickly grasped the problems that were here and suggested how they could be handled," said VCU president Dr. Edmund F. Ackell. "He faced similar problems at Ohio State and corrected them."

Lash received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Wayne State University and a master's degree in hospital administration from the University of Michigan's graduate school in public health. Prior to his work at Ohio State's hospitals, he was an instructor in the university's graduate program in hospital and health services administration and special assistant to the director of hospitals.

Lash will also be able to fill two newly created positions at the hospitals, a chief financial officer and a general day-to-day administrator of the hospitals' operations.

Homes in Decline

A decline in home construction is anticipated for this year by a selected group of Virginia mortgage lenders, realtors, and home builders surveyed by the Real Estate and Urban Land Development Program at VCU.

The survey showed that 91 percent of the respondents expected the national volume of housing starts to be almost 20 percent lower than the 1978 output of two million units.

The program interviewed knowledgeable lenders, realtors, and builders throughout Virginia to obtain informed opinions about the probable state of the economy,

interest rates, and residential construction and sales activities in the coming months.

While reduced construction starts were predicted by 91 percent, 71 percent of those interviewed expected home sales volume to be off from that of 1978, which was a strong year for such sales.

The sustained high rate of inflation, which last year was 7.5 percent, has been an important influence both on construction costs and mortgage interest rates. Recent sharp rises in food prices and corporate profits, plus expected rises in the cost of energy, probably influenced respondents to anticipate the rate of inflation will reach just over 9.25 percent for 1979, the surveyors believe.

Money market certificates which were made available to banks and savings and loan associations since last June had been helpful in attracting and retaining funds for mortgage lending, in the opinion of 78 percent of the interviewees; but in view of a recent move to limit the yield paid on these certificates in raising funds for mortgage lending, it was expected that their effectiveness in attracting funds would be slight or nil. Some experts expected that since savings and loan associations no longer would retain an interest rate advantage of one-quarter percent over commercial banks, some funds would be diverted to the latter, based on convenience to the customers.

The respondents anticipated a slight softening this summer in the prevailing 11.75 percent prime rate (the best short-term interest rate charged to financially strong customers). They expected it to drop to 11.6 percent, but to rise slightly to 11.8 percent by the end of the year.

They judged that the existing rate of 10.5 percent for an 80 percent, 30-year home mortgage probably would continue during the summer, but expected it to fall to 10 to 10.25 percent toward the end of the year.

The survey participants were asked about the three most im-

portant influences on high interest rates. They rated first, the availability of mortgage funds; second, the level of inflation; and third, the general state of the economy.

The lenders, realtors, and builders expressed concern about the ability and desire of prospective property owners to pay the prevailing mortgage interest rates.

3,300 Enter Job Market

On May 12, 1979, 3,300 fresh, new VCU graduates emerged from the Richmond Coliseum and entered the world with college degrees.

Before taking this step, the class of '79 heard Paul G. Rogers, a member of the United States House of Representatives from Florida's 11th congressional district and chairman of the house subcommittee on health and the environment deliver, the commencement address. Rogers also received an honorary doctor of science degree from VCU.

Also receiving an honorary doctor of science degree was Dr. Chapman H. Binford, a 1929 graduate of the MCV School of Medicine. Binford is retired medical director of the Leonard Wood Memorial American Leprosy Foundation of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C. After his retirement, he became chief of the special mycobacterial diseases branch and registrar for leprosy for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology and co-editor of *Pathology of Tropical and Extraordinary Diseases*. He has published 58 articles in a variety of periodicals and served as a member of the World Health Organization on Leprosy from 1964 through 1976.

Of this year's graduates, 1,070 received master's degrees or doctorates. There were also 273 professional degrees awarded to graduating physicians and dentists. The School of Arts and Sciences had the most graduates, 550, followed by the School of Education with 535, 527 from the School of Business, 400 from the School of the Arts, 267 from the

School of Community Services, and 235 from the School of Social Work.

Water, Water Everywhere

A pharmacology research team from MCV has received a \$1.1 million, two-year grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to continue evaluation of the potential hazards of chemicals found in drinking water.

The team's data will help the EPA establish federal standards for drinking water contaminants.

Last fall, the MCV pharmacologists completed a two-year preliminary project in which they tested the chloroform series of contaminants that are formed when the chlorine used to kill bacteria in drinking water combines with organic materials in the water. After administering massive doses of the chemicals to rodents, the researchers found only slight changes in the animals' immune systems and neurochemical transmitters. The researchers are not prepared to draw conclusions on the findings until more studies are conducted, says Dr. Joseph Borzelleca, director of the project.

The pharmacologists will continue to search for minimum levels of the contaminants which produce changes in brain chemistry, behavior, reproduction, and immune responses. But under the new grant, testing will be more comprehensive, says Borzelleca.

The EPA has selected more compounds to be tested, and the experiments will continue for a year. The earlier tests lasted for 14 to 90 days.

Researchers will now give mice chemicals in their drinking water in an attempt to more closely simulate the human experience of getting the compounds into the body.

More than 700 organic water contaminants have been identified in drinking water supplies. Borzelleca, a member of the National Academy of Sciences Safe Drinking Water Committee, says that although some cancer studies had been performed on the chloroform series of contaminants, "we discovered that no one

had looked at the overall effects of these chemicals."

He and other MCV researchers came up with a team approach in order to look at a number of responses.

Directing the behavioral studies aspect of the testing is Dr. Robert L. Balster, associate professor of pharmacology. He will be noting the ways in which the chemicals affect behavior and the animals' ability to respond.

Dr. William L. Dewey, professor of pharmacology, will be studying chemical changes in the brain and nervous system brought on by the contaminants.

Dr. Albert E. Munson, associate professor of pharmacology, will investigate the ability of the compounds to change the body's built-in defense against disease.

And studying the male reproductive system of the mouse will be Borzelleca and Dr. Harry L. Skalsky, assistant professor of pharmacology. They will note changes in the development and genetic make-up of the sperm.

Haynes Receives Honor

Dr. B. W. Haynes, director of the burn unit at the MCV Hospitals since 1953, has received the Harvey Stuart Allen Distinguished Service Award of the American Burn Association. The award is given annually to the physician who is considered outstanding in his contributions to burn therapy, usually over the course of a career.

This is the most prestigious award in the field of burn treatment and Haynes was the eleventh person to receive the honor. It is an honor that can only be won once.

Rooms for Rent

The new bathhouse dormitory, overlooking Monroe Park on the corner of Pine and Main Streets, is expected to be ready for occupancy by students attending summer school. Furnishings began being installed in March in the two-level townhouse-style apartments, each with bedrooms, living room, dining room, and kitchen. Most of the apartments will accommodate four students, and some of the rooms are

constructed to meet the needs of the handicapped. When fully occupied, the dorm will house 512 students.

Those Refreshing Freshmen

By now, most of the students who began their first year of college last fall have achieved sophomore status. After a year of college, it might be interesting to see how their conceptions or misconceptions of life at an institution of higher learning differ from those they came with.

The Office of Student Life conducts a survey each year during the summer registration to see what students think about certain issues, why they chose VCU, and what they expect college will be like. Last year's freshmen proved to be as interesting as any other group of first year students.

One thing the student life office learned was that VCU is a popular place for female students to attend. In 1978, almost 65 percent of the entering class were women. In every year since 1973, no less than 62 percent of the entering freshmen have been females.

Entering VCU students are slightly older than their counterparts on a national basis.

Liberalism is apparently not in vogue these days. Of the entering class, only 29 percent identified themselves as liberals. Meanwhile, 15 percent said they were conservative.

Almost half the class lives within 50 miles of VCU, and 38 percent said their parents earn between \$25-50,000 annually.

There was some opinion that high school programs did not prepare students well in math skills, science, and study habits. However, 40 percent of the students surveyed said their chances were very good they would make at least a 'B' average in college.

Seventy-six percent said VCU was their first choice when selecting a college or university to attend. Academic reputation, presence of a particular major or degree program, and relatively low tuition were the three most important reasons given for selecting VCU.

Whatever Happened To...

Soaring to the Top

Pick a branch of the armed forces, any branch, and study their recruiting posters for just a minute. One way or the other, they all imply that by joining up you'll have the chance to travel. "Join the Navy and see the world," "Join the Army and see the world," and etc. Some may have wondered just how much of the world you would have a chance to see. Others were probably just as happy to see the world at their own convenience, thank you.

Mary R. Boyd, a 1957 graduate of St. Philip's School of Nursing, wanted to see the world following the completion of her nursing studies, and she chose the United States Air Force as her vehicle of travel. She was commissioned as a second lieutenant, and following a brief training course, received her first indication as to how wide the Air Force viewed the world—she was assigned to a hospital in Washington, D.C., a mere 96 miles from her home.

Since that time, Boyd has gone many places and come a long way in the process. She currently holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and of the 3,000 Air Force nurses, only 60 have achieved this position. She is presently serving as assistant chief nurse at the medical facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

"I had no idea I'd ever get this far," Boyd says. "I came into the Air Force in order to go to Europe and do some travelling. When I first joined, I only had a two-year commitment. After spending 13 months in D.C., I was sent overseas to North Africa, extended my tour of duty, went to indefinite career status, and decided to make a career commitment in 1968. At that time, I was moved into the regular career force."

Aside from her time in North Africa, Boyd has also seen tours of duty in London, Japan, and the Philippines. She says her favorite place was London, where she



Brigadier General Dr. John H. Halki and Lieutenant Colonel Mary Boyd received their recent Air Force promotions on the same day.

lived three years, probably because there was less adjustment for her to make. She has recently returned from Japan where she was chief nurse and initiated nursing activity in a new 100-bed Air Force hospital. She was chief nurse there two years, but her current status as assistant chief nurse at Wright-Patterson is considered to be a promotion because Wright-Patterson is a full-fledged medical facility, while a 100-bed hospital doesn't earn that classification.

Between her overseas assignments and her hospital duties in the United States, Boyd has also found time to sandwich in additional education. In 1966, she received her bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Nebraska in Omaha. Then in 1974, she took her master's degree in nursing from the University of California at San Francisco. She has plans to begin work on her doctorate soon.

Of course, everything there is to be learned about Air Force nursing isn't available in college.

"I went to flight school in order to study aerospace medical science," Boyd says. "This amounted to learning how to work on air medical evacuation flights. These are specially equipped planes and are just like flying hospitals. I'd say that was one of the most satisfying experiences I had as a young officer."

Those days of flight school are behind her, now, and her thoughts are beginning to wander ahead to the time when she will no longer be dressed in Air Force green.

When she does leave the Air Force, she realizes just how strange it is going to feel to return to the life she left in 1958.

"It's hard to adjust from life in the service to civilian life," she says. "We work at a different pace and have more responsibility in the Air Force. Our work carries a larger role in our lives."

And while the service has certainly been enjoyable for her, it's not an experience she recommends for everybody coming out of nursing school.

"Whether you can believe the poster ('See the world . . .') depends on how you interpret that," she says. "The Air Force isn't for everybody, military nursing isn't for everybody, it's a way of life. It's unique and satisfying for those who are adventurous and don't yearn for the stability of living in one place for a long time. But while I've been in the Air Force, I've been able to achieve a lot of my own personal objectives."

While Mary Boyd has a definite idea as to why she joined the Air Force, Brigadier General Dr. John J. Halki can't pinpoint any one specific reason for enlisting.

"I really can't say what drew me to the Air Force," says the 1956 graduate of the School of Medicine and 1960 resident in obstetrics and gynecology. "I just saw it as one of the options available to a graduate of medical school, tried it, and liked it."

Halki liked it more than just a little, he found the military way of life was the only life for him.

"When I entered in 1957, I signed up for a three-year tour-of-duty," he explains. "But before that stretch was up, I knew I wanted to make a career, 30-year commitment to the Air Force."

During his 22 years with the Air Force, he has served in Alaska, at the U.S. Air Force Academy, at the University of Kansas Medical Center, where he began work on his doctorate in pharmacology, at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, where he obtained his Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Texas, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, where he served as commander of the

medical center at the base, and at his present location, Norton Air Force Base, where he is serving as director of the Air Force Safety Inspection Center.

He describes this as a different type of duty from his Wright-Patterson assignment, with more responsibility. In his new job, he is responsible for medical inspections throughout the Air Force.

Regardless of his duties, Halki has found just about every aspect of the Air Force pleasurable.

"I've enjoyed the total life of the Air Force," he says. "I've enjoyed my jobs, working in medicine, raising a family, and the various places we've lived."

One of the most enjoyable experiences of his military career came while he was on duty at Wright-Patterson. During that time, he not only served as director of the base hospital, but he also had appointments as associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, associate clinical professor of pharmacology, and assistant dean for Air Force Affairs at Wright State University. All of these were voluntary since Halki was already employed by the Air Force.

"I've been able to have a mixture of clinical work, teaching, researching, and administration," Halki said. "If I'd stayed in strict clinical work, I wouldn't have been exposed to the others. But as it is, I've had the best of all four."

"The Air Force has been a great place for me, but not everyone wants to go into the military; not everyone wants to go into clinical work or research right out of school, either. All of these things are options for individuals coming out of medical school. I decided to give the military a try, and I've thoroughly enjoyed it."

If you take a new job, get a promotion, earn another degree, receive an honor, or decide to retire, share the news with us, and we will pass it along to your classmates via the "Whatever Happened to . . ." section. Please address newsworthy items to Editor, VCU MAGAZINE, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia 23284.

'26

Dr. John H. Childrey (medicine '26) has retired from the practice of otolaryngology and obtained a civil service appointment at Hays Army Hospital in Fort Ord, Calif. He has been promoted to the classification of GS-14.

'34

Dr. Thomas B. Pope (medicine '34) has retired from private medical practice after 45 years.

'35

Louis Moosey (medicine '35) has become a Fellow in the International College of Surgeons.

Dr. D. Blanton Allen (dentistry '35) had gone into semi-retirement in Berryville, Va.

'40

Mary Jo Stahl Southall (B.S. recreation '40) has retired as curator of special collections at the Virginia Historical Society after 14 years in the position.

'42

Nell W. Blaine (fine arts '42) recently joined the "stable" of the Fischbach Gallery in New York City and had a one-artist exhibit at the gallery. Her work was included in an exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, entitled "Hans Hofman as Teacher: Drawings by His Students." Her work is also included in "Artist's Postcards, 11," a fine art postcard format distributed internationally in museums and shops and exhibited with the original in New York, London, and Paris.

'46

Lloyd E. Church (dental internship '46) has been appointed and commissioned as a member of the Great Oaks Citizens Advisory Board for a term of four years by the Governor of Maryland. He is also serving on the President's Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped by appointment of President Carter. Church is serving his 18th year as a member of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Unit of the American Cancer Society and the Greater Washington Speech and Hearing Society. He has also become a certified instructor in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

Dr. Matthew L. Lacy (medicine '46) has been named the 135th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. He resides in South Hill, Va., where he is chief of surgical service at Community Memorial Hospital.

'49

E. Barclay Sheaks (B.F.A. fine arts '49) exhibited his paintings at the Harold Decker Gallery in Richmond. A cross-section of his works were exhibited at the Fredericksburg, Va., Center for the Creative Arts. He is an associate professor at Virginia Wesleyan College.

'50

Charles W. Waldron (B.S. social science '50) received a \$150 bonus for a suggestion that will enable the U.S. Army to save approximately \$2,000 per year. Waldron is an education specialist with the Directorate of Intern Training, Army Logistics Management Center, Fort Lee. His suggestion called for the elimination of visits to training sites that have only a few interns in training and recommended that evaluations be done by correspondence or telephone.

Henry C. Boschen Jr. (B.S. distributive education '50) has completed the requirements for a master of divinity degree in religious education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest University.

'51

Don A. Hunziker (B.S. business '51) has been elected to the High Point, N.C., National Bank board of directors.

'52

Jane Belk Moncure (B.S. education '52) has been named recipient of the 1979 Virginia Association for Early Childhood Education Award for outstanding service to young children in Virginia. She is currently a teacher at the Burlington, N.C., Day School, as well as an author and consultant. She has written more than 70 books for children.

'54

Dr. Henry T. Harrison Jr. (medicine '54) has been appointed chairman of the emergency department at St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond.

'57

Dr. Robert V. Turner (B.S. social science '57; M.S. psychology '60) has retired from his position as special assistant for federal programs in the Virginia Department of Education.

'58

Elbert E. Scott Jr. (pharmacy '58) has been promoted to district manager for Drug Fair. He formerly served as manager of the Drug Fair store in Meadowbrook Plaza in Richmond.

'59

John J. Erdman (B.S. business '59) has been appointed division vice president, personnel and industrial relations, of AMF Incorporated's Union Machinery Division, headquartered in Richmond. He has served as the division's director of industrial relations since 1969.

'62

Leonita M. Pagenhardt (B.F.A. commercial art '62) recently instructed a beginning drawing class for the Department of Recreation in Waynesboro, Va.

'63

Kirby H. Smith Jr. (hospital administration '63) has been appointed to the Petersburg, Va., advisory board of First and Merchants Bank.

'64

Theron P. Bell III (B.S. accounting '64; M.S. business '75) has been named a chartered bank auditor by the Bank Auditors Institute. He is employed by United Virginia Bank in Richmond.

Donald S. Good (hospital administration '64), a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force, has been named director of medical administrative services at Andrews Air Force base in Maryland. He is also a regent-at-large for the American College of Hospital Administrators.

Austin T. Parker (M.S. social work '64) is the chief social worker of the psychiatric division of the student health center at Indiana University.

Susan J. VanPool (B.F.A. fashion illustration '64) is living in Los Angeles where she is working as a graphic designer, mainly doing free-lance production for printed matter, packaging, and display. She also does soft sculpture on special orders, which, she says, keeps her creative juices flowing. She adds that she can also be found at

the fountain at Schwabb's, waiting to be discovered.

Willie Anne Wright (M.F.A. painting '64) had her work displayed in a recent exhibit at the Scott-McKinnis Gallery in Richmond. This show was also taken to the Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts.

'65

Carlton C. Collier (B.F.A. '65) is communications coordinator for the Maymont Foundation in Richmond. He is responsible for public relations, graphic design, special events, and working with the news media.

Dr. Danny L. Scott (medicine '65) has been promoted to medical director by State Farm Life Insurance Co. He is headquartered in Normal, Ill.

'66

Gerald R. Brink (hospital administration '66) is serving as executive vice president of Riverside Hospital in Newport News, Va.

Gloria Johnson Irvin (B.S. sociology '66; M.Ed. guidance '70) received the "Sammy" award as distinguished salesman for Winfree H. Slater, Inc., real estate. It is the second year in a row she has won the award.

'67

Michael J. Filippone (B.S. accounting '67) is employed by Jersey Central Power and Light Co. He has been with the company since his graduation.

Robert H. Gardiner III (pharmacy '67) has been named manager of the People's Drug Store in Warrenton, Va.

Joel S. Gurley (B.S. sociology '67) has joined Insurance Advisory Services of Roanoke, Va., as an associate. He previously worked in marketing and sale of pharmaceuticals for nine years.

Richard A. Reed (B.S. business administration '67) has been named director of underwriting of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation of the Mortgage Corporation in Washington, D.C. He will assist in developing and administering of the corporation's home mortgage underwriting guidelines. He will also monitor mortgage insurance companies doing business with the corporation, and the corporation's regional underwriting staff.

'68

Omar E. Bacon Jr. (hospital administration '68) is an administrator at Hamilton Memorial Hospital in Dalton, Ga.

John B. Edwards (B.S. journalism '68) has been named the Smithfield

Jaycees' 1978 Outstanding Young Man. He is managing editor of the *Smithfield Times* and also serves as president of VCU's Academic Division Alumni Association.

Felix A. Fraraccio (hospital administration '68) has been elected vice president of the Roanoke, Va., area hospital council. The council covers 26 hospitals. Fraraccio is administrator of R. J. Reynolds-Patrick County Memorial Hospital in Stuart, Va.

Dr. Charles M. Huber (medicine '68) has been elected president of the Chamber of Commerce of Front Royal, Va.

'69

Lillain Waymack Amburgey (M.Ed. guidance '69) has been named head of career planning and placement at the Parham Campus of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

Aubrey B. Connelly III (B.S. psychology '69) has been selected for *Who's Who in Industry and Finance* for 1979-80. He is a senior analyst for the Department of the Army.

Kenneth R. Cooke (B.F.A. communication art '69) has been named vice president of The Schechter Group, a New York based design and marketing communications firm. Cooke is the firm's design manager.

William G. Godwin (B.S. recreation '69) has received his M.S. degree from Indiana University and is working as a coordinator of training for the mentally retarded in Cincinnati. He previously worked as a recreation therapist in community mental health in West Virginia and Indiana.

Virginia Booth Grabbe (B.S. social science '69) is teaching in Sacramento, Calif. She is a member of a three-teacher team, instructing 98 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders in an open classroom.

George L. Grubbs Jr. (B.S. retailing '69) has been named Safeway store manager of the year by the Richmond Division of Safeway Stores, Inc. He is manager of the Mechanicsville Safeway.

John J. Schwartz (B.S. accounting '69) is relocation director and associate broker with James River Inc., Realtors. He served as president of Davenport Realty and Service Corp., prior to that company's merger with James River.

Dr. William L. Spence Jr. (M.S. business administration '69) is supervisor of the Virginia Beach, Va., school board.

Dr. Robert J. Walker III (residency-radiology '69) is practicing radiology in Atlanta.

Doris Walker Woodson (M.F.A. painting '69) displayed her work in platinum prints in the Gellman Room of the Richmond Public Library.

'70

James M. Bennett (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '70) recently had a showing of his work in Roanoke, Va. Bennett is a teacher at Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, Va.

Wilsie Paulette Bishop (B.S. nursing '70) has been appointed to the medical malpractice review board for the state of Tennessee. She is an assistant professor at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City.

Joseph C. English (B.F.A. communication arts and design '70) presented a one-man show of his silkscreen works at the Green Spring Gallery in Alexandria, Va.

William H. Downing (hospital administration '71) has been named administrator of Northampton-Accomac Memorial Hospital in Massawadox, Va.

Bette Hudgins Dillehay (B.A. history '71) has been named manager of information services for A. H. Robins Co., in Richmond.

'71

Mario L. Cavezza (B.S. business administration '71) is branch manager of the Fairfield, N.J. office of Hooper-Holmes, Inc. This is a commercial reporting company, specializing in insurance and claims investigations.

Robert E. Zukowski (M.S. business '70) has been named the state of Virginia's Department of Corrections first full-time financial director.

Charles J. Long (B.S. accounting '70) has been named area operations manager for General Medical Corporation's midwestern area headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind.

Wickliffe S. Lyne (hospital administration '71) is administrator for the Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley, W.Va.

Coy H. Newman Jr. (A.A. law enforcement '71; B.S. law enforcement '72; M.U.R.P. '75) now serves the Richmond region in the capacity of executive director for the Richmond Regional Criminal Justice Training Center. He was formerly employed by the Virginia Division of Justice and Crime Prevention as police systems specialist.

J. Shawn Ogburn III (B.S. biology '71) and his wife **Linda Meredith Ogburn** (nursing '71) have organized and founded the Raptor Preservation Fund, an organization that saves and protects birds of prey. The two were

featured in a *People* magazine article for their work. When not tending to matters concerning the birds and the organization, Shawn works as a surgical supply salesman and Linda is an intensive care nurse. They live in Round Rock, Texas.

Susan Shaffer (M.S.W. '71) has accepted the position of administrator of B'nai B'rith/B'nai B'rith women units and area coordinator for B'nai B'rith International in Washington, D.C.

Edward D. Shelton (M.S. rehabilitation counseling '71) received the Outstanding Service Award from the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services. Shelton is program supervisor for the Danville, Va., rehabilitation program.

Carol Amundsen Snyder (B.M.E. '71) was one of four young singers featured as a soloist for the Richmond Symphony and All-State College Choir presentation of Honegger's "King David." Snyder is a vocal instructor in VCU's Community Music School.

William C. Thomas (B.S. management '71) has opened his own real estate firm in his hometown of Leesburg, Va.

Betty D. Washington (B.S. law enforcement '71) is a patrolman for the Richmond Bureau of Police.

'72

John R. Bass (B.S. economics '72; M.S. business '73) has been named assistant vice president of Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association in Norfolk, Va.

Michael L. Collins (M.H.A. '72) recently represented VCU at the inauguration of the president of Georgetown College in Georgetown, Ky.

Linda C. Johnston (B.S. occupational therapy '72) has been appointed to the West Virginia Board of Occupational Therapy and elected its chairman.

Richard M. Keeney (B.F.A. art education '72) has been appointed to the Louisiana District Export Council. He is still president and owner of J. T. Gibbons, Inc., located in New Orleans.

Robert A. Mawyer Jr. (B.S. management '72) has been promoted to Commercial Lines Supervisor in the State Farm Fire and Casualty Company.

Marsha Alizabeth Polier (B.F.A. communication arts and design '72) displayed her works in platinum prints in the Gellman Room of the Richmond Public Library.

Mary Kay Withers Savage (B.S. elementary education '72) is a teacher in the Aylett Country Day School in Dunnsville, Va.

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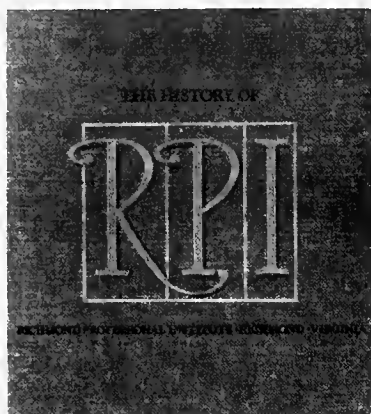
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The History of RPI



Dr. Henry H. Hibbs has written a personal account of Richmond Professional Institute from its modest beginning in 1917 to its consolidation with the Medical College of Virginia to form Virginia Commonwealth University in 1968. The book, entitled **The History of the Richmond Professional Institute**, is hardbound in an attractive 8"×11" format, contains 164 pages, and is generously illustrated with photographs and drawings.

The book, priced at \$12.50, has been published by the RPI Foundation and is available exclusively through the Alumni Activities Office.

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Philip B. Trumbo (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '72) conducted a three-day workshop on the technique and possibilities of animated films at A. P. Hill School in Petersburg, Va.

'73

Errett H. Callahan Jr. (M.F.A. painting and printmaking '73) has been named director of the Pamunkey Research Center on the Pamunkey Indian Reservation near King William County in Virginia.

Lynn W. Camp (B.S. management '73; M.S. business administration '76) is a management engineer with the Medicus Systems Corp./Whittaker Corp. in Missouri City, Texas.

Carol A. Cuneo (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '73) taught a class in hand-built pottery during the spring quarter for J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

Carl E. Demory (B.S. '73, M.S. administration of justice and public safety '78) has joined the staff of the Richmond Regional Criminal Justice Training Center and is coordinator of criminal justice training for the Richmond metropolitan area. He was previously employed by the Henrico County Division of Police.

Glenna Smith Gammon (B.S. retailing '73) is an account manager with Hallmark Marketing Corporation. She has been transferred to Dallas and given increased sales responsibility for the Dallas metropolitan area as well as the east Texas area. She has been named to the current edition of *Who's Who Among American Women*.

M. David Gladstone (dentistry '73) is in the private practice of dentistry in Virginia Beach, Va.

Douglas R. Honnald (B.F.A. interior design '73) is a vice-president for Milholland & Olson, Inc., in Hopewell, N.J. His wife **Julie Arrington Honnald** (B.A. history '73) is secretary-treasurer of Milholland & Olson, Inc.

Howard D. Hopkins (M.Ed administration and supervision '73) has been appointed a national coordinator for the 13th annual U.S. Youth Games which will be held this summer in Richmond. Nearly 1,000 young athletes from 13 cities will compete in the competition. Hopkins is athletic director at Maggie Walker High School in Richmond.

George T. Jamerson (B.S. business administration '73) has been named a trust officer for Central National Bank in Richmond.

Cherie A. Muerth (M.S.W. '73) is working as a caseworker for the Reuniting Families project of the Community Services of Greater Chattanooga, Tenn.

Jon T. Parks (B.F.A. communication arts and design '73) is working for the Richmond Public Schools Audio Visual Services where he makes films encouraging drop-outs to return to school. He has also made a 30-minute film entitled *Chesapeake*, that detailed two weeks that 38 students spent touring and learning about the Chesapeake Bay. Parks also wrote and directed the film.

Steven G. Switzer (B.S. pharmacy '73) has been named pharmacist at the Westminster-Canterbury House in Richmond. He was formerly director of pharmacy at St. Luke's Hospital in Richmond.

'74

Stephen J. Aukward (M.S. rehabilitation counseling '74) has been named unit supervisor of operation in the vocational training department at the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center in Fisherville, Va.

Frederic Charles Eddowes Jr. (B.S. mass communications '74) has been promoted to director of sales—special markets for the Pillsbury Co. He is responsible for developing sales strategy and execution of new efforts with non-food outlets on a national basis. He previously worked as sales merchandising manager of consumer foods for Pillsbury.

Olive Layton Harris (M.A.E. '74) recently exhibited her paintings in the Richmond Public Library.

Victoria Colclough Massey (B.A. English '74) has joined the staff of Stuart Hall School in Staunton, Va., as director of public relations and publications.

Charles W. Murphy (B.S. business administration '74) recently represented VCU at the inauguration of the president of Voorhees College in Denmark, S.C.

Susan Joyce Spirn (B.S. mass communications '74) has been appointed executive director of the Rockingham-Harrisonburg, Va., Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals shelter.

James B. Thorsen (B.A. history '74) graduated from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond and has started the firm of Jones and Thorsen in Richmond.

Alice Musgrove Walavich (M.F.A. painting and printmaking '74) recently gave a one-artist exhibit at the Art League Center in Petersburg, Va. The showing was sponsored by the Petersburg Area Art League, an affiliate of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Trudy E. Wayne (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '74) has accepted the position of art and production man-

ager in the advertising department of Allegheny Airlines in Washington, D.C.

'75

Diane Borschel Anderson (B.S. physical therapy '75) is a staff physical therapist at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown, Pa.

Dr. Albert J. Baner (Ph.D. microbiology '75) delivered the first annual Willie Reams Biomedical Lecture at the University of Richmond.

Dale N. Cash (B.S. retailing '75) has been appointed buyer of linens and domestics for Hochschild Kohn, a chain of retail stores headquartered in Baltimore. His wife, **Bonni Berey Cash** (B.S.W. '76) is a protective service specialist with the Baltimore City Department of Social Services. Prior to this, she was a caseworker with the Baltimore County Department of Social Services.

George W. Dawson (M.H.A. '75) is associate executive director of Holston Valley Community Hospital in Kingsport, Tenn.

Donald C. Garabedian (B.S. accounting '75) is a certified public accountant with the firm of Coopers & Lybrand in San Francisco.

Sharon Marie Lee (B.S. health and physical education '75) is a jet mechanic in the U.S. Air Force. She is stationed in Charleston, S.C.

Minda R. Lynch (B.S. psychology '75) has received her M.S. degree in experimental psychology from VCU.

Dr. Benjamin H. McIlwaine (M.D. '75) has opened his practice in Sutherland, Va. He is in family practice and describes himself as a "country doctor."

Barbara Garland Miller (M.S.W. '75) is assistant regional director for the Joint Action in Community Service in Atlanta. The organization recruits, trains, and provides back-up support to volunteer "advisors" in local communities who serve as advocates for ex-Job Corpsmen. She is personally responsible for the Carolina and Kentucky.

Martin E. Maples (B.S. psychology '75; M.S. rehabilitation counseling '77) has been appointed substance abuse counselor at the Fauquier Family Guidance Center. As a substance abuse counselor, he will attempt to reach out to persons in need of services who do not know those services are available, make home visits to substance abuse clients, and speak to community groups about drugs and alcohol related problems.

Dr. Michael A. McMahon (M.D. '75) recently passed an examination that certified him for diplomat status on the American Board of Family Practice. He is an Air Force captain, stationed in Minot, N.D.

Barbara Garland Miller (M.S.W. '75) recently represented VCU at the inauguration of the president of Atlanta University Center, Inc., in Atlanta.

J. Victor Pharr (B.F.A. art education '75) is the graphic arts director for Euromat Company, auto equipment specialists with 37 stores throughout France. He is responsible for all advertising, brochures, and catalogs, as well as designing trademarks for the company. He is also doing free-lance work in Paris, designing book covers, some for the American Embassy.

Edward C. Morris (M.S. sociology '75) has been named superintendent of Mecklenburg Correctional Center in Staunton, the state's newest prison designed for inmates who need maximum security and who have not responded to treatment programs in other institutions. He previously served as assistant superintendent at Staunton Correctional Center.

Eileen Dix Smith (B.S. special and elementary education '75) has been named to the faculty of Middlesex County High School. She will teach special education and English.

Wendy Anne Winters (B.F.A. fashion design '75) has been named a regional field manager for Lady Madonna Maternity Botique. Winters is responsible for 37 stores in the east, midwest, and south. Her duties include presenting the fashion line biannually to store owners, keeping owners up to date on fashion trends, preparing merchandising plans, and offering training information and sessions, either over the phone or by on-site visits.

David L. Woody (B.S. pharmacy '75) has been named assistant manager of the pharmaceutical department at the Thrift Store in Bedford, Va.

Steven R. Woolford (B.S. marketing '75) is working part-time for McKenny & Co., an industrial advertising agency in Philadelphia while he is enrolled in the M.B.A. program at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

'76

John S. Berry (M.H.A. '76) is an administrator at Page Memorial Hospital in Luray, Va.

H.C. Stuart Cochran (B.A. history '76) has been appointed to the staff of W.J. Perry Corp., an insurance agency in Staunton, Va. He is a professional insurance agent and will be handling both personal and business insurance.

Gary N. Chandler (B.S. marketing '76) appeared in the role of Benjamin in the University of Richmond's production of "Fifty Cubits", the story of Noah's Ark. This was the world premier of this opera.

Rings and Diplomas



Class Rings

Even if you failed to buy a class ring as a student, you can now order one. Rings for both men and women are available in a wide variety of styles. For more information and a price list, write for a ring order kit and please, specify whether the ring is for a man or a woman.



Confirmation Diplomas

If you earned a degree (not a certificate) from Richmond Professional Institute prior to its becoming Virginia Commonwealth University, you can get a confirmation diploma from VCU. Just write for an application form and return it with \$10 to cover the cost of the new diploma.

For the confirmation diploma application form and the ring order kit-price list, please write: Alumni Activities Office, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia 23284.

Laura A. Ellis (B.S. marketing '76) is a flight attendant for United Airlines.

Edward Z. Fair (M.S.W. '76) is currently serving as Assistant Director of Artist Relations for Lone Wolf Productions, Inc., in Houston, Texas. Lone Wolf is an entertainment management and production company. Fair's duties include market research as well as tour planning and coordination for ZZ Top and other national recording artists.

Rebecca Hooker Lingerfelt (B.M. applied music '76) presented a music at noon concert in the Memorial Chapel at Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond.

Heather C. McAdams (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '76) recently had her paintings included in a Women's Invitational art exhibition at the 1708 E. Main alternative space gallery in Richmond.

Carol E. Nichols (B.S. nursing '76) has joined the faculty of the nursing education department at Columbia State Community College in Columbia, Tenn.

William L. Spitzig (B.S. marketing '76) is employed by the Just Service Typewriter Service in Washington, D.C.

Joyce C. Albro (M.S.W. '77) was recently appointed superintendent of eligibility determination with the City of Richmond Welfare Department.

'77

Alice C. Coates (M. Ed. elementary education '77) was named Outstanding Young Educator in Stafford County, Va., by the Stafford Jaycees.

Mary B. Crenshaw (B.F.A. painting and printmaking '77) recently had her mixed media works displayed as a part of a Women's Invitational Art Exhibition at the 1708 E. Main alternative space gallery in Richmond.

Robert H. Flatford III (B.S. business administration and management '77) is a loan officer with First and Merchants National Bank in Richmond.

Michelle Diane Harman (B.M. applied music '77) was one of four young sisters who was a featured soloist for the Richmond Symphony and the All-State College Choir presented Honegger's "King David." Harman was a district and regional finalist for the Metropolitan Opera auditions in 1978. She has also won district and regional awards from the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Larry Kent (B.M. applied music '77) presented a program of piano music recently at VCU's Music Center.

Stephanie D. Lesser (B.S. mass communications '77) is a publishing assistant at Medical Examination Publications in New York City.

Caroline Dolber McMurray (M.S.W. '77) has been appointed state coordinator of Volunteer Emergency Foster Care of Virginia. The program provides temporary homes for 1,200 to 1,600 children per year who need a place to stay while their tangled home lives are sorted out by the courts and welfare authorities.

Constance E. Ober (B.S. mass communications '77) has been named coordinator of non-credit public service courses in the division of continuing studies and public service at VCU.

Steven R. Smith (M.S. physical education '77) is executive director of the Home Emergency Life Preservation, Inc., in Richmond. He recently was the featured speaker at the Pulaski, Va., Merchants Council. HELP is a pilot project for the purpose of training volunteers in the prevention and care of health emergencies involved with fire, crime, and the home.

Lynn M. Talley (B.S. marketing '77) has accepted a job with Elanco Products Co., a division of Eli Lilly and Co. Talley, who is now stationed in Atlanta, is selling agricultural chemicals to distributors, dealers, and farmers.

'78

Edmund A. Abramovitz (M.H.A. '78) is assistant administrator for professional services at Hamilton Hospital in East Windsor, N.J.

Montgomery S. Beasley (B.S. mass communications '78) has joined the staff of the Teams for Progress as a fieldman. He is working on the teams current voter education project. The Teams for Progress is a non-partisan political organization that endorses candidates for city council in Richmond.

James N. Boyd (M.S. mathematics '78) spoke on "A New Look at the Mathematics Curriculum, Grades 8-12" at the 1979 National Association of Independent Schools Annual Conference. He is chairman of the mathematics department at St. Christopher's School in Richmond.

Richard D. Brown (M.S. rehabilitation '78) has accepted a position as program manager at Cordet, a work adjustment training center for disabled adults in Richmond.

Carol J. Froehlich (M.S.W. '78) has begun the job of staff counselor in the Department of Child Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the Children's Hospital of Buffalo, N.Y.

Jerome P. League (B.F.A. communication arts and design '78) has been named a graphic designer for the Danskin Company in New York City.

Alice H. McGehee (B.F.A. art history '78) put together an exhibition of pages from the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* of 1910 to prove that pages from a newspaper can be considered a work of art. The exhibit was on display at the Main Street Frame Shop in Richmond.

Dennis L. Reed (M.A. English/English education '78) presented a reading from his works of poetry at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. He is a member of the school's faculty.

Lori R. Rubenstein (B.S. marketing '78) has been promoted to market research analyst at I. Michael Kadish, Inc., a management consulting firm. She is living in Leonia, N.J.

Sandra Overstreet Rugenski (M.S. rehabilitation counseling '78) has been hired as a rehabilitation counselor by the New Mexico State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Anne Rae Creery Savedge (M.Ed art education '78) displayed her work in platinum prints at the Gellman Room of the Richmond Public Library.

Donette L. Shepherd (B.F.A. communication arts and design '78) has been named art director for Richard Heiman Advertising in Atlanta.

Sheryl A. Suko (B.S. mass communications '78) has been named a satellite programming director for Richmond Subscription Television Ltd.

Michael L. Taylor (A.S. radiologic technology '78; B.S. health care management '78) has been named an assistant administrator of Manor Care, Inc., in Falls Church, Va.

Steven L. Wheeler (D.D.S. '78) has gone into practice in Fishersville, Va., in association with Dr. Melvin Koogler.

David P. Melton (B.F.A. theatre '79) has graduated with honors at Chanute Air Force Base, Ill., from the U.S. Air Force technical training course for automatic flight control systems specialists. He studied navigation, aerodynamics, pneumdraulics, and electronics.

Frederick W. Turner (B.S. administration of justice and public safety '79) has taken a job with the Department of Corrections as a staff assistant to the central region administrator in Lynchburg, Va.

Letters

Dear Editor,

You and other alumni might be interested in knowing that two gadgets, a buttonhook and a spray can depressor, pictured in your article in "Teeming Up Against Arthritis," (*VCU Magazine*, Winter 1979) were designed by an alumnus of VCU (RPI), Mr. Fred Sammons, occupational therapy '55.

While working as head occupational therapist at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago in 1957, Fred began working in his basement to design a suction cup type buttonhook for use by stroke patients or amputees. He then went to work as a research therapist in prosthetics at Northwestern University, where he participated in designing an electric feeding arm for children. In the meantime, he continued his hobby of designing assistive devices.

That hobby became so extensive he finally quit his therapy job to



VCU (RPI) alumnus Fred Sammons designed these self-help devices for arthritics.

manufacture gadgets for the handicapped and therapy equipment full-time. Today, Fred is the president of Fred Sammons, Inc., a rapidly growing company with 35 employees and four million dollars in annual sales to the rehabilitation field.

Clark L. Sabine,
Marketing Manager
Fred Sammons, Inc.

A Satisfied Customer

Dear Editor,

I was pleased to discover the article "Games Children Play" by Dr. Doris W. Busby and Dr. Alice M. Pieper in the recent issue of your magazine (*VCU Magazine*, Spring 1979). When I read it, I realized how helpful it could be to us in working with child care facilities which we license, especially day care centers for preschool and school-age children. Not only does the article encompass theoretical concepts pertaining to the meaning and importance of play, it also provides a practical guide to toy selection as well as a categorical list of age appropriate materials and how they can promote a child's growth.

Thank you for providing such qualitative material in your magazine.

Elizabeth Seay Grey, Licensing
Specialist
Department of Welfare
Division of Field Operations
Verona, Va.

Travel

Plan now to get away from it all on an exciting vacation with the VCU Alumni Travel Program.

A Rhine River Cruise, August 4-14, takes you into the heart of Europe. This unique European tour includes: round-trip flight; a three-day cruise between Karlsruhe, Germany and Nijmegen, Holland, with three daily shipboard meals; deluxe accommodations in Munich for three nights with full breakfasts and two gourmet dishes; three nights in cosmopolitan Brussels, featuring a special banquet, full breakfasts, and two dinners at a selection of the finest restaurants; and numerous economical optional excursions. This Rhineland tour is only \$1,199 complete, per person, double occupancy.

Sicily, with the fabulous sun and sea of the Mediterranean, is the



destination October 17-25, 1979. This Sicilian vacation features: round-trip flight; daily continental breakfasts; a festive Sicilian wine and cheese party; deluxe accommodations on the beautiful Mediterranean; and a selection of optional tours. Experience this Sicilian holiday for only \$399 (plus a 15 percent tax and service

charge) per person, double occupancy.

Watch for details on additional bargain-priced vacations in future issues of *VCU Magazine*.

For more information, please contact the Alumni Activities Office, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia 23284, or telephone (804) 257-1228.

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